



## Good Morning!

I hope you had a safe and relaxing Thanksgiving with your family and friends. I will be in the District this week attending meetings and preparing for the upcoming interim committee meetings in Tallahassee.

I consider it a great honor to represent all the citizens and visitors of District 17. Please share this link with friends and family so that they too can sign up for the Mayfield Minute.

If you or someone you know needs my assistance, please don't hesitate to contact my office. My staff and I are here to serve you!

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## Florida Senate Leadership Announcement

This year I am proud to announce I will be serving as the Florida Senate Majority Leader.

It is a tremendous honor to serve as your 2020-2022 Republican Leader, and I look forward to continuing my work for all Floridians.

Thank you to President Simpson for entrusting me with this great responsibility. I will continue to advance conservative policies, invest in Florida's water quality, and protect our vulnerable populations.



Please visit the [Florida Senate website](#) to view the published Calendar. The calendar includes the Interim Committee and 2021 Session dates. You may also tune in to watch committee meetings live on the [Florida Channel](#).

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## SCAM ALERT

The holiday season is often a time for good deeds and generosity, but beware of scam artists that may try to take advantage of this spirit of giving.

Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody has provided the following tips to protect yourself from fraud:

- Before donating, ensure the charity is registered and eligible to solicit in the State of Florida by visiting [FDACS.gov/ConsumerServices](https://www.fdacs.gov/ConsumerServices) or by calling 1-800-HELP-FLA;
- Research how donations are used. Visit [FDACS.gov/ConsumerServices](https://www.fdacs.gov/ConsumerServices) and click on "Check-A-Charity" to see its spending breakdown. Additionally, Charity Navigator evaluates and ranks organizations at [CharityNavigator.org](https://www.charitynavigator.org);
- Do not provide banking information to someone who calls, emails or texts unsolicited on behalf of a charity. If interested in donating, ask that the charity mail

- you information and a pledge form; and
- Pay close attention to a charity's name. It is not unusual for scammers to create sham charities with names similar to that of legitimate, well-known charities.

Anyone who encounters any type of holiday season scam, should contact the Florida Attorney General's Office at [MyFloridaLegal.com](http://MyFloridaLegal.com) or calling (866) 9-NO-SCAM.

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## District 17 Highlights

### Indian River County Legislative Delegation Meeting

This year I will be hosting the Indian River County Legislative Delegation meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm. The meeting will take place in the Commission Chambers, 1801 27th Street, Building A, Vero Beach.

Indian River County Legislative Delegation members include Representative Erin Grall and myself. We will be meeting in preparation for the 2021 Legislative Session, which is set to begin on March 2, 2021. The primary purpose of this meeting is to allow government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and local citizens to address the Delegation and present their legislative priorities for the upcoming session.

If you would like to participate in the delegation meeting, you must complete a Request Form and provide three (3) copies of all necessary supporting documents to my office by January 8th, 2021.

For more information please contact Jacob Dimond (772) 226-1970  
[Dimond.Jacob@flsenate.gov](mailto:Dimond.Jacob@flsenate.gov).

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### Palm Bay Rental, Mortgage & Utility Assistance

In response to the significant financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on local families, the City of Palm Bay is extending their Rental, Mortgage and Utility Payment Assistance Program. Funding for this program is provided through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act to assist qualified Palm Bay residents who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic due to unemployment or under-employment.

Eligible uses for the funding include rental or mortgage payment assistance, utility payment assistance, security deposits, and utility deposits. Utility payment assistance can only be provided if coupled with rent or mortgage payment assistance. Property management agents and landlords may help tenants apply for rental payment assistance. Rental payment assistance may be utilized to pay past due rent and accrued late fees since March 1, 2020.

Applications for assistance are available through the City of Palm Bay Housing and Community Development Division office located at Palm Bay City Hall Annex, 120 Malabar Road SE, by emailing [HCDinfo@pbfl.org](mailto:HCDinfo@pbfl.org), or online at [PalmBayFlorida.org](http://PalmBayFlorida.org).

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### Sebastian River Preserve State Park Trail

Florida State Parks boast over 1,300 recreational trails for hiking, biking, equestrian, paddling or ATV's. Indian River County hosts one of the state's most beautiful preserves, St. Sebastian River State Park.

This park preserves open grassy forests of longleaf pine that were once commonplace throughout Florida. The pine flatwoods form a backdrop for other biological communities, including cypress domes, scrubby flatwoods, sand hills and a beautiful strand swamp.

These habitats are home to many native plants and animals, including over 50 protected species.

Photographers, bird-watchers and nature enthusiasts can explore miles of trails on foot, bicycle or horseback. Canoeing, boating and fishing on the St. Sebastian River are also popular activities. Launching facilities are available outside the preserve at Dale Wimbrow Park. Several private ramps are available along the St. Sebastian River and at a canoe launch north of County Road 512. To see more detailed information, or to locate other State Parks, please visit [FloridaStateParks.org](http://FloridaStateParks.org).

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Follow me on Facebook and Twitter, and visit my [Senate website](#)



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## Contact Information

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